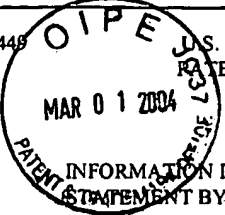


Form PTO-1449 <div style="text-align: center;">  </div> U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)		ATTY. DOCKET NO. 2877 (203-3419)		SERIAL NO. 10/720,510	
APPLICANTS Richard D. Gresham, et al.					
FILING DATE November 24, 2003				GROUP ART UNIT - Unknown	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
MM	668,879	02/1901	Miller				
	1,213,001	01/1917	Philips				
	1,248,492	12/1917	Hill				
	2,548,602	04/1951	Greenburg				
	3,509,883	11/1967	Dibelius				
	3,545,443	12/1970	Ansari				
	3,742,958	07/1973	Rundles				
	3,788,318	01/1974	Kim et al.				
	3,789,852	02/1974	Kim et al.				
	3,902,492	09/1975	Greenhalgh				
	4,018,230	04/1977	Ochiai et al.				
	4,141,364	02/1979	Schultze				
	4,411,655	10/1983	Schreck				
	4,447,237	05/1984	Frisch et al.				
	4,479,497	10/1984	Fogarty et al.				
	4,581,025	04/1986	Timmermans				
	4,589,868	05/1986	Dretler				
	4,601,713	07/1986	Fuqua				
	4,610,688	09/1986	Silvestrini et al.				
	4,650,466	03/1987	Luther				
4,710,181	12/1987	Fuqua					
4,716,901	01/1988	Jackson et al.					
4,738,666	04/1988	Fuqua					
4,739,762	04/1988	Palmaz					

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
MM	4,753,636	06/1988	Free				
	4,762,128	08/1988	Rosenbluth				
	4,772,266	09/1988	Groshong				
	4,798,193	01/1989	Giesy et al.				
	4,846,791	07/1989	Hattler et al.				
	4,865,593	09/1989	Ogawa et al.				
	4,869,717	09/1989	Adair				
	4,888,000	12/1989	McQuilkin et al.				
	4,896,669	01/1990	Bhate et al.				
	4,899,729	02/1990	Gill et al.				
	4,921,479	05/1990	Grayzel				
	4,941,874	07/1990	Sandow et al.				
	4,954,126	09/1990	Wallsten				
	4,955,895	09/1990	Sugiyama et al.				
	4,972,827	11/1990	Kishi et al.				
	4,986,830	01/1991	Owens et al.				
	5,021,241	06/1991	Yamahira et al.				
	5,045,056	09/19/91	Bwhl				
	5,078,736	01/1992	Behl				
	5,084,057	01/1992	Green et al.				
5,100,388	03/1992	Behl et al.					
5,100,420	03/1992	Green et al.					
5,104,382	04/1992	Brinkerhoff et al.					
5,112,304	05/1992	Barlow et al.					

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## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
MM	5,116,318	05/1992	Hillstead			
	5,122,122	06/1992	Allgood			
	5,139,511	08/1992	Gill et al.			
	5,158,545	10/1992	Trudell et al.			
	5,183,464	02/1993	Dubrul et al.			
	5,188,602	02/1993	Nichols			
	5,201,756	04/1993	Horzewski et al.			
	5,222,938	06/1993	Behl			
	5,222,971	06/1993	Willard et al.			
	5,234,425	08/1993	Fogarty et al.			
	5,246,424	09/1993	Wilk			
	5,250,025	10/1993	Sosnowski et al.			
	5,250,033	10/1993	Evans et al.			
	5,275,611	01/1994	Behl			
	5,279,554	01/1994	Turley			
	5,290,276	03/1994	Sewell, Jr.			
	5,304,119	04/1994	Balaban et al.			
	5,312,360	05/1994	Behl			
	5,316,360	05/1994	Feikema			
	5,320,611	06/1994	Bonutti et al.			
	5,383,859	01/1995	Sewell, Jr.			
	5,392,766	02/1995	Masterson et al.			
	5,403,278	04/1995	Ernst et al.			
✓	5,407,430	04/1995	Peters			

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
V	MM	5,431,655	07/1995	Melker et al.			
		5,431,676	07/1995	Dubrul et al.			
		5,433,708	07/1995	Nichols et al.			
		5,437,631	08/1995	Janzen			
		5,437,644	08/1995	Nobles			
		5,453,094	09/1995	Metcalf et al.			
		5,454,790	10/1995	Dubrul			
		5,454,825	10/1995	Van Leeuwen et al.			
		5,460,170	10/1995	Hammerslag			
		5,484,403	01/1996	Yoakum et al.			
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		5,540,658	07/1996	Evans et al.			
		5,542,928	08/1996	Evans et al.			
		5,573,517	11/1996	Bonutti et al.			
		5,601,559	02/1997	Melker et al.			
		5,662,614	09/1997	Edoga			
		5,674,240	10/1997	Bonuutti et al.			
		5,713,867	02/1998	Morris			
		5,735,867	04/1998	Golser et al.			
		5,746,720	05/1998	Stouder, Jr.			
	5,800,390	09/1998	Hayakawa et al.				
	5,800,409	09/1998	Bruce				
	5,814,058	09/1998	Carlson et al.				
	5,824,002	10/1998	Gentelia et al.				
EXAMINER /Michael Mendoza/				DATE CONSIDERED 03/08/2007			
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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS							
EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
MM		6,293,909	09/2001	Chu et al.			
		6,306,124	10/2001	Jones et al.			
		6,325,789	12/2001	Janzen et al.			
		6,325,812	12/20/01	Dubrul et al.			

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EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
MM		0 177 177	04/1986	Europe				
		2199247	07/1988	Great Britain				
		0 385 920	09/1990	Europe				
		WO 92/19312	11/1992	WIPO				
		WO 94/20026	09/1994	WIPO				
		WO 95/30374	11/1995	WIPO				
		WO 98 19730 A	05/1998	WIPO				
		DE 198 14 576A	10/1999	Germany				

OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)			
EXAMINER INITIAL			Product Brochure ENDOMED™, Cooper Surgical, Inc. (1992) (2 pages)
			Product Brochure BLUNTPORT, Auto Suture Company, a division of United States Surgical Corporation (1992) (1 page)
MM			Product Brochure DEXIDE® Inc., Dexide, Inc. (1992) (1 page)
			Product Brochure EXPANDO®, Bentley Harris (1988, 1990, 1991) (12 pages)

EXAMINER <div style="text-align: center;">/Michael Mendoza/</div>	DATE CONSIDERED <div style="text-align: center;">03/08/2007</div>
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PTO/SB/08A (10-01)

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO  <b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			<b>Complete if Known</b>		
			Application Number	10/720,510	
			Filing Date	November 24, 2003	
			First Named Inventor	Richard D. Gresham, et al.	
			Art Unit	3739	
			Examiner Name	Unknown	
			Attorney Docket Number	2877	
Sheet	1	of	1		

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Examiner Signature	/Michael Mendoza/	Date Considered	03/08/2007
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<b>Substitute for form 1449A/PTO</b>		<b>Complete if Known</b>	
		<b>Application Number</b>	10/720,510
<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT</b>  (use as many sheets as necessary)		<b>Filing Date</b>	November 24, 2003
		<b>First Named Inventor</b>	Richard D. Gresham, et al.
		<b>Art Unit</b>	3739
		<b>Examiner Name</b>	Unknown
<b>Sheet</b>	1	of	1
		<b>Attorney Docket Number</b>	2877

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. 1	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number - Kind Code <sup>2</sup> (if known)			
MM		US- 5,827,319	10/27/1998	Carlson, et al.	
MM		US- 6,162,236	12/19/2000	Osada	
		US-			
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		Country Code 3	Number <sup>4</sup> - Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (if known)			

<b>Examiner Signature</b>	/Michael Mendoza/	<b>Date Considered</b>	03/08/2007
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